

Abstract of the Invention

A catalyst body comprising a carrier and a catalyst layer containing an alkali metal and/or an alkaline earth metal, loaded on the carrier, which catalyst further contains

5 a substance capable of reacting with the alkali metal and/or the alkaline earth metal, dominating over the reaction between the main components of the carrier and the alkali metal and/or the alkaline earth metal. With this catalyst body, the deterioration of the carrier by the alkali metal

10 and/or the alkaline earth metal is prevented; therefore, the catalyst body can be used over a long period of time.